

October 27, 2009

Dear Saint Cecilia Students and Parents,

As you all know, Saint Cecilia School has been hit with a lot of illness, but all of it is not the Swine Flu. As soon as I sent out the letter last Thursday saying no cases of swine flu reported, we had two confirmed cases of swine flu reported the following day. Just two!

I want to put your minds at ease that everything we can do to keep the children safe, is being done. We are working along with the RI Health Dept. logging all the children who are out because of sickness. They have asked us to log the sick children under three categories: Fever with cough, Fever with sore throat, Fever with cough and sore throat. We had forty six new children out yesterday and nineteen new students out today. We are told that if the numbers get too large, the Health Dept. will come in and spot check the students. They are not at that level and seem to be going down. There is no need to panic. Much of the illnesses are the usual: colds, sinus infections, strep throats and bronchial congestion.

Desks are being washed two or three times a week by the teachers and Mr. Ferrara has been asked to wipe down the door knobs and banisters with bleach. The children are continuously reminded to wash and disinfect their hand with soap and water and sanitizer. Careful watch is being given to the sanitizer dispensers, and constantly replenished.

Please, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to call my office. If your child is running a temperature and coupled with a cough/sore throat, please keep him/her home. On the reverse side of this letter, I have included an email that I received, that seemed to be loaded with common sense. You may or may not take up some of the suggestions. It's up to you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Simone M. Kennedy  
Principal, Saint Cecilia School